



The Green Building program of San José promotes the creation of environmentally sound and resource-efficient buildings and homes by using an integrated approach to design.

Our vision for Green Building in San José is a place where the people have the knowledge and opportunities to build and occupy dwellings that have a maximum impact on the well being of the occupants and a minimal impact on the environment.

The City of San José seeks to facilitate sustainable development by educating developers, architects, engineers, contractors, property owners and residents about green building and promoting environmentally sound building practices through the Green Building Program.



WANT TO FIND OUT MORE?

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www.ci.san-jose.ca.us/esd/GB-HOME.HTM

Other Green Building Resources:

U.S. Green Building Council
www.usgbc.org

Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Rating System
www.leedbuilding.org

California Integrated Waste Management Board
Green Building Design and Construction
www.ciwmb.ca.gov/GreenBuilding

California Energy Commission
www.energy.ca.gov

Consumer Energy Center (CEC)
www.consumerenergycenter.org

Alameda County Waste Management Authority
Alameda County Source Reduction & Recycling Board
www.stopwaste.org

Whole Building Design Guide
www.wbdg.org

American Institute of Architects (AIA)
Committee on the Environment (COTE)
www.e-architect.com/pia/cote

Sustainable Buildings Industry Council (SBIC)
www.sbicouncil.org



Funded by the California Integrated Waste Management Board
1201/7500:3160 Printed on recycled content paper with soy-based inks.

THINK BUILD SAVE GREEN

**AN EXCITING
PROGRAM FROM THE
CITY OF SAN JOSE**

GREEN BUILDING





INTRODUCTION

Green Building is an exciting program in San José. It has been created to encourage and facilitate the building, buying and remodeling of a home or work-place into one that is more comfortable, efficient, and durable. One that is healthy for you, your family and the planet.

Most buildings and homes are constructed in ways that could cause significant environmental damage and occupant health concerns. One of the best ways to lessen these impacts is to use "green" building methods.

Green Building Programs across the country are being recognized for their leadership in helping builders, architects and residents learn and employ "green" residential and commercial construction practices.

Building "green" in San José will improve air and water quality; increase occupant health, comfort and productivity; reduce energy consumption and the use of non-renewable resources; encourage the reuse of materials; and improve the quality of life for San José's residents.

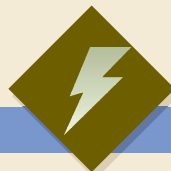
The program looks at all aspects of a building and encourages the use of as many Green Building elements as possible.

Some examples include...



WATER

- Water-efficient landscaping utilizing native, drought tolerant plants
- Use of recycled water for landscaping
- Water-efficient plumbing fixtures and appliances
- Use of an efficient irrigation system
- Landscaping designed to prevent water from running off the property



ENERGY

- Solar site orientation (positioning of building in relation to the sun for natural heating and cooling)
- Choosing energy efficient designs and building materials
- Use of energy efficient appliances
- Use of renewable energy (energy generated from solar, wind, biomass, etc.)
- Daylighting and other forms of efficient lighting, such as skylights
- Use of light-colored reflective roofs to reduce cooling load
- Well insulated structure and duct systems
- Trees planted around the house or building for summer shading and protection from cool winter winds



MATERIALS AND WASTE

- Use of recycled, recyclable, sustainably managed, re-used and local materials
- Use of products that avoid excessive packaging
- Minimize life-cycle ecological impact of materials used
- Provide a composting system for organic wastes
- Make appropriate use of land



HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Practices that discourage mold, dust and mites
- Materials, paints and finishes that emit fewer toxic fumes
- Safer pest control and yard care methods such as organic pest control and non-chemical yard care methods
- Protection from combustion gases
- Effective ventilation to promote healthy indoor air quality
- Links to public transportation and transportation alternatives such as bicycles and alternative-fueled vehicles



SITE AND LAND USE

- Control erosion to reduce negative impacts on water and air quality
- Avoid development on inappropriate sites (agricultural land, wetlands, within FEMA 100-year flood zone, etc.)
- Conserve existing natural areas and restore damaged areas to provide habitat and promote biodiversity
- Reduce heat-islands (temperature differences between developed and undeveloped areas)
- Eliminate light trespass to improve night sky access and reduce impact on nocturnal environments